

# Today

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- Comment on pre-lecture problems
- Finish up with integrating factors
- The structure of solutions
- Separable equations

# Pre-lecture assignment comments

Consider the initial value problem

$$\frac{dy}{dt} - 6y = 5e^{2t}, \quad y(0) = A.$$

a. Find the solution.

$y =$

b. For what values of  $A$  does the above solution tend to  $\infty$ ,  $0$  or  $-\infty$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ?

As  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$y \rightarrow \infty$  if  $A \in$

$y \rightarrow 0$  if  $A \in$

$y \rightarrow -\infty$  if  $A \in$



Problem Number

$$y' - 6y = 5e^{2t}$$

$$(e^{-6t}y)' = 5e^{-4t}$$

$$e^{-6t}y = -\frac{5}{4}e^{-4t} + C$$

$$y(t) = -\frac{5}{4}e^{2t} + Ce^{6t}$$

$$y(0) = -\frac{5}{4} + C = A$$

$$C = A + \frac{5}{4}$$

$$y(t) = -\frac{5}{4}e^{2t} + \left(A + \frac{5}{4}\right)e^{6t}$$

# Method of integrating factors

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- Given that  $\frac{d}{dt} (t^2 y(t)) = t^2 \frac{dy}{dt} + 2ty$

- if you're given the equation  $t^2 \frac{dy}{dt} + 2ty = 0$

- you can rewrite it as  $\frac{d}{dt} (t^2 y(t)) = 0$

- so the solution is  $t^2 y(t) = C$  or equivalently  $y(t) = \frac{C}{t^2}$ .

arbitrary constant  
that appeared at an  
integration step



# Method of integrating factors

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- Solve the equation  $t^2 \frac{dy}{dt} + 2ty(t) = \sin(t)$  (not brute force checking).

(A)  $y(t) = -\cos(t) + C$

(B)  $y(t) = \frac{C - \cos(t)}{t^2}$

(C)  $y(t) = \sin(t) + C$

(D)  $y(t) = -\frac{1}{t^2} \cos(t)$

(E) Don't know.

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(D)  $y(t) = -\frac{1}{t^2} \cos(t)$

(E) Don't know.

← general solution  
(although that's not  
obvious)

← a particular solution

# Initial conditions (IC) and initial value problems (IVP)

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- An **initial condition** is an added constraint on a solution.

- e.g. Solve  $t^2 \frac{dy}{dt} + 2ty(t) = \sin(t)$  subject to the IC  $y(\pi) = 0$ .

(A)  $y(t) = -\frac{C + \cos(\pi)}{\pi^2}$

(B)  $y(t) = -\frac{1 - \cos(t)}{t^2}$

(C)  $y(t) = \frac{1 + \cos(t)}{t^2}$

(D)  $y(t) = -\frac{1 + \cos(t)}{t^2}$

(E) Don't know.

- An Initial Value Problem (IVP) is a ODE together with an IC.

# Method of integrating factors

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- What function should we multiply through by to make the LHS a perfect product rule?

$$t \frac{dy}{dt} + 2y(t) = 1 \quad \rightarrow f(t) = t$$

$$t^2 \frac{dy}{dt} + 4ty(t) = \frac{1}{t} \quad \rightarrow f(t) = t^2$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} + y(t) = 0 \quad \rightarrow f(t) = e^t$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} + \cos(t)y(t) = 0 \quad \rightarrow f(t) = e^{\sin(t)}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} + g'(t)y(t) = 0 \quad \rightarrow f(t) = e^{g(t)}$$

# Technical definition of integrating factor

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- For the general first order linear ODE

$$a(t)y' + b(t)y = g(t)$$

- Divide through by  $a(t)$  and define  $p(t) = b(t) / a(t)$  and  $q(t) = g(t) / a(t)$  :

$$y' + p(t)y = q(t)$$

- The function that, when multiplied through, make the LHS a perfect product rule is called the integrating factor.



# Method of integrating factors

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- General case - all first order linear ODEs can be written in the form

$$\frac{dy}{dt} + p(t)y = q(t)$$

- The appropriate integrating factor is  $e^{\int p(t)dt}$ .

- The equation can be rewritten  $\frac{d}{dt} \left( e^{\int p(t)dt} y \right) = e^{\int p(t)dt} q(t)$  which

is solvable provided you can find the antiderivative of the right hand side.

$$e^{\int p(t)dt} y(t) = \int e^{\int p(t)dt} q(t) dt + C$$

$$y(t) = e^{-\int p(t)dt} \int e^{\int p(t)dt} q(t) dt + C e^{-\int p(t)dt}$$

# The structure of solutions

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- When the equation is of the form (called homogeneous)

$$\frac{dy}{dt} + p(t)y = 0$$

- the solution is

$$y(t) = C\mu(t)^{-1}$$

- where

$$\mu(t) = \exp\left(\int p(t)dt\right)$$

- is the integrating factor.

# The structure of solutions

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- When the equation is of the form (called nonhomogeneous)

$$\frac{dy}{dt} + p(t)y = q(t)$$

- the solution is  $y(t) = k(t) + C\mu(t)^{-1}$
- where  $k(t)$ , as given earlier, involves no arbitrary constants.
- Think about this expression as  $y(t) = y_p(t) + y_h(t)$
- Directly analogous to solving the vector equations  $A\bar{x} = 0$  and  $A\bar{x} = \bar{b}$ .

# Examples

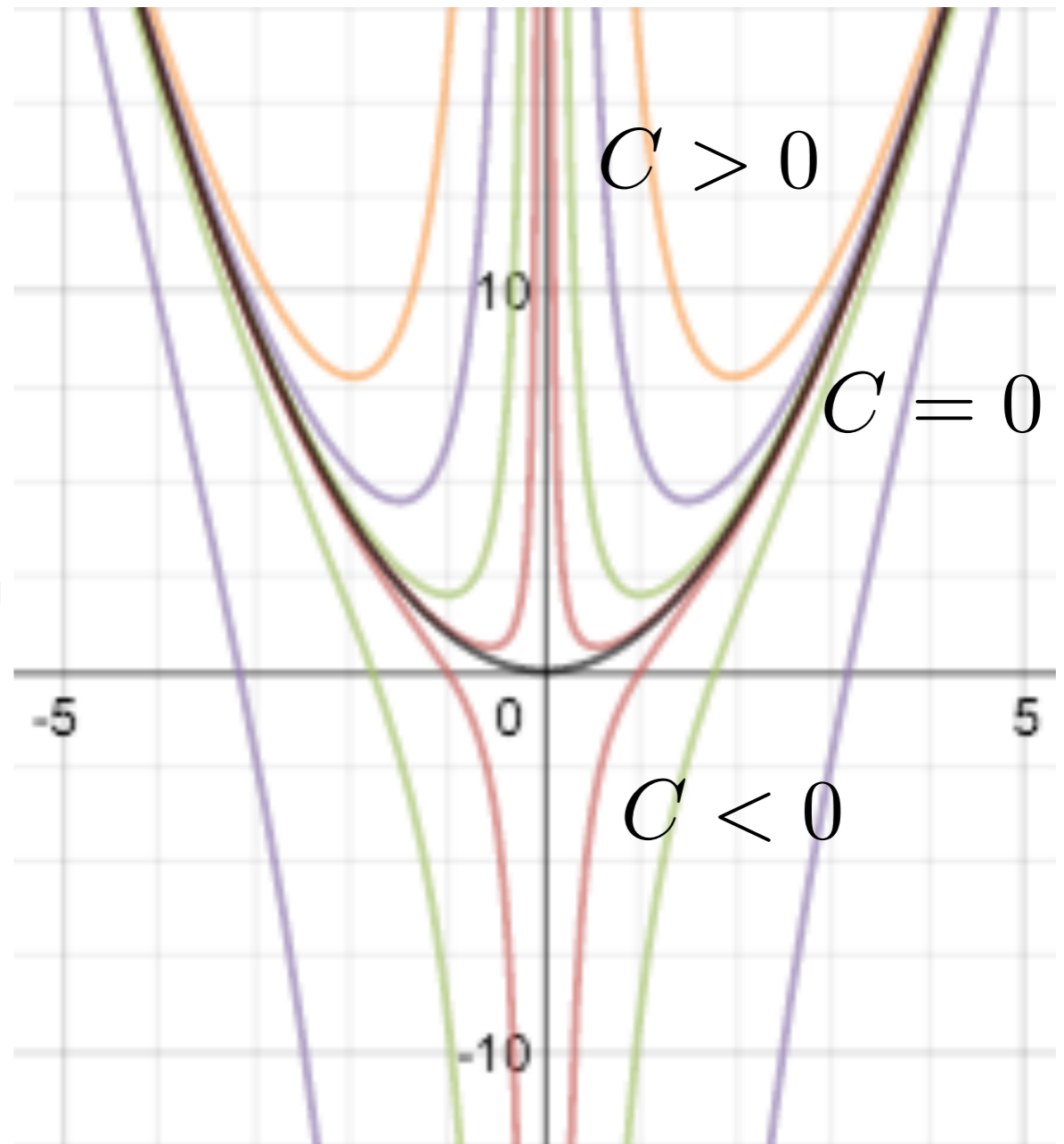
- Find the general solution to

$$t \frac{dy}{dt} + 2y = 4t^2$$

- and plot a few of the integral curves.
- Integral curve - the graph of a solution to an ODE.

$$y(t) = t^2 + C \frac{1}{t^2}$$

- Steps: divide through by  $t$ , calculate  $I(t)$ , take antiderivatives, solve for  $y$ .  
Or shortcut.



# Examples

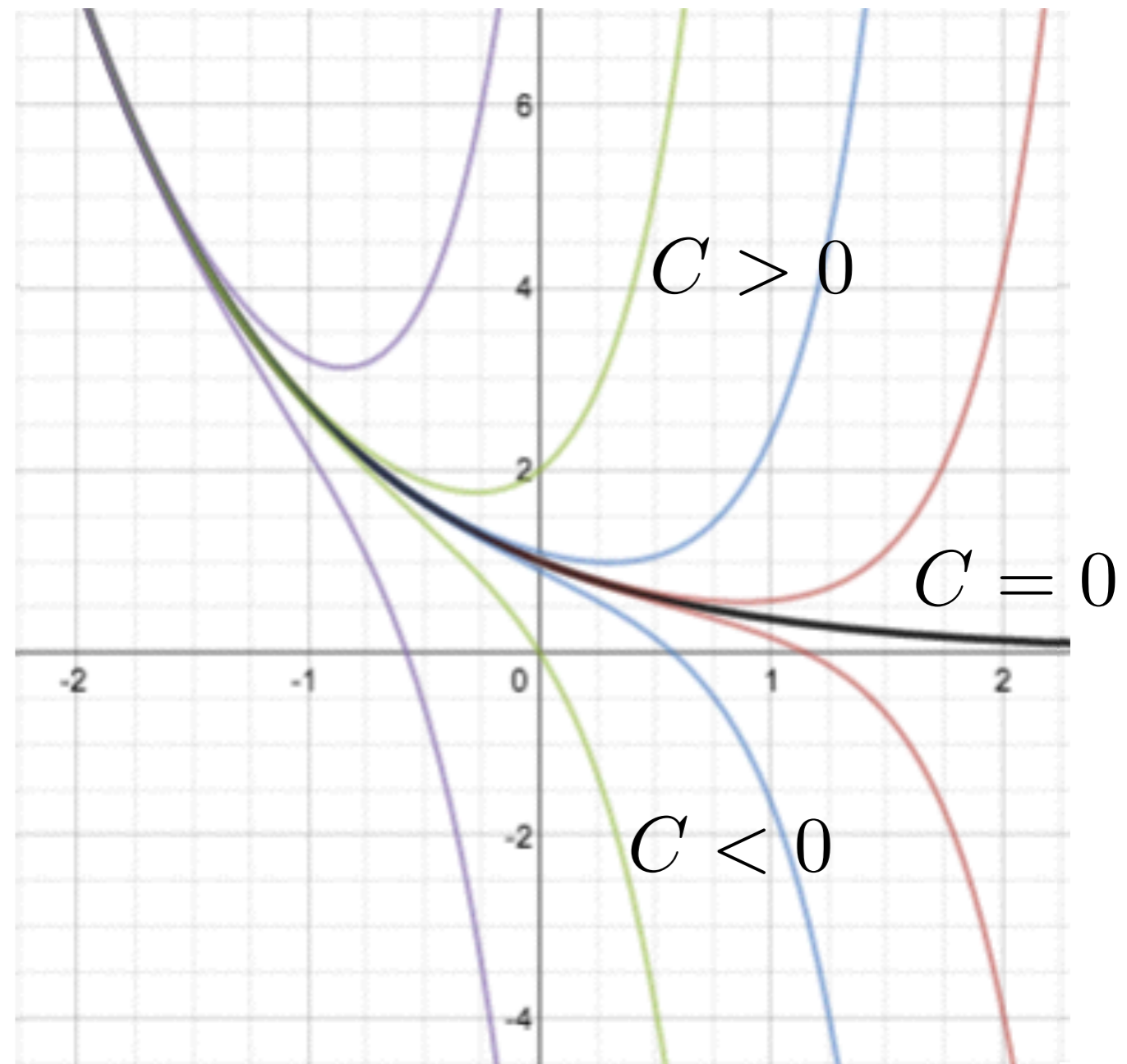
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- Find the general solution to

$$\frac{dy}{dt} - 3y = -4e^{-t}$$

- and plot a few of the integral curves.

$$y(t) = e^{-t} + Ce^{3t}$$



# Limits at infinity

- If  $y(t)$  is a particular solution to

$$\frac{dy}{dt} - 3y = -4e^{-t}$$

- depending on  $C$ , how many different results are possible for

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} y(t) ?$$

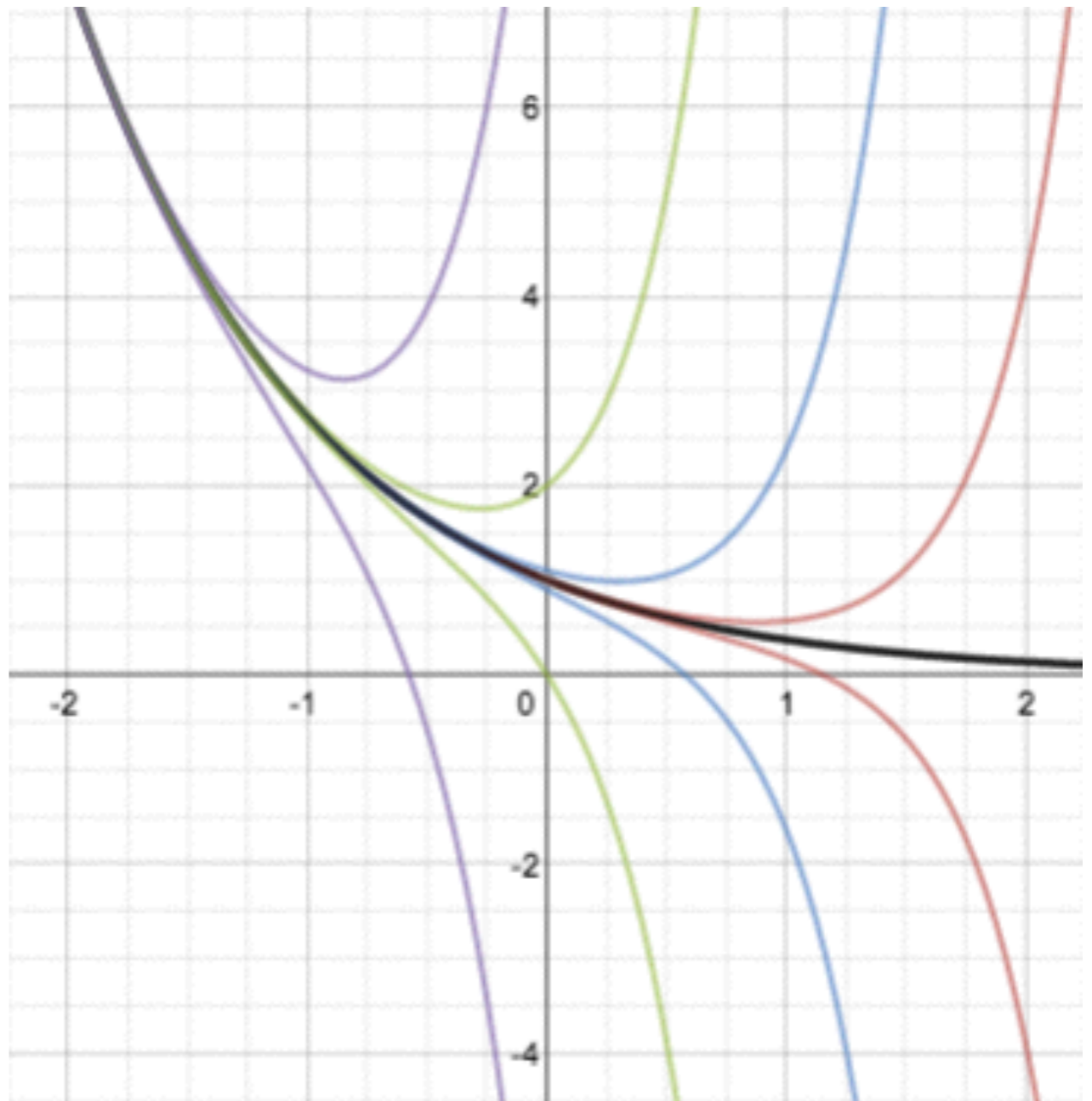
(A) 0

(B) 1

(C) 2

(D) 3

(E) Don't know.



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